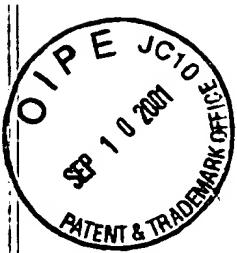


Signature
MARSHALL JENKINS



Our Docket No.: B588-021

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kenichiro Matsuura et al.
Serial No. : 09/909,042
For : INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM AND APPARATUS AND METHODS THEREFOR
Filed : July 19, 2001
Art Unit : Unassigned
Examiner : Unassigned

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 1, line 24 and ending at page 2, line 2 as follows:

-- Electronic mail information is generally represented by text. However, a binary file such as application data (document file) prepared by a user can be attached to electronic mail information by a technique for encoding the binary file into text data and a technique for decoding encoded text data. --.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 2, line 27 and ending at page 3, line 27 as follows:

-- Communication using electronic mail with a portable terminal via the Internet is allowed. However, if a mail recipient does not notify a mail sender of limitations on information content (e.g., attachment of a computer electronic file or binary file) and the